



2003 South Carolina Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey Highlights: Preventive Health and Screening Practices

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey is a cross-sectional telephone survey conducted annually to help determine behavior and risk factor prevalence in the fifty states and several US Territories. The survey consists of interviews conducted with randomly selected adults aged 18 years or older from sampled households. The sampling method used is a disproportionate stratified sample from all telephone-equipped dwellings in the states. The data is specifically weighted to match the State's population by several demographic factors.

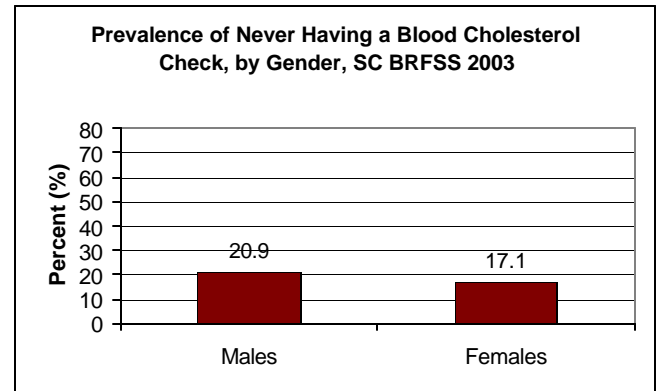
SC BRFSS is administered every year in cooperation with the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Questions included on the survey gather information about lifestyle choices such as smoking, alcohol consumption, weight control, cancer screening habits, and women's health issues. The results are used to determine health needs for the State of South Carolina and to measure progress towards National 2010 Health Objectives.

In 2003, 5,926 surveys were completed by Clearwater Research, Inc for South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC). South Carolina has been conducting the BRFSS survey since 1984.

This summary reports the prevalence of several preventive health and screening practices among the adult population of SC in 2003.

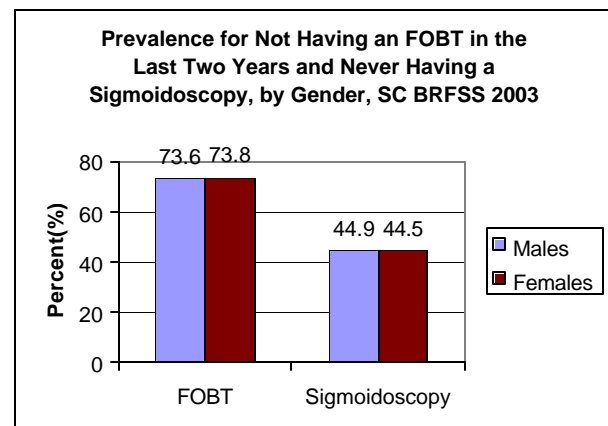
Cholesterol Screening

18.9% of South Carolina adults had never had their blood cholesterol level checked.



Colorectal Cancer Screening

There are two tests for colorectal cancer screening used in people over the age of 50: fecal occult blood test (FOBT) and sigmoid or colonoscopy. The 2010 Healthy People goal for having had an FOBT in the last two years is 50%; the goal for ever having had a sigmoid or colonoscopy is 50%. For South Carolina adults over 50, the results were 26.3% for an FOBT in the last two years and 55.3% for having ever had a sigmoid or colonoscopy.

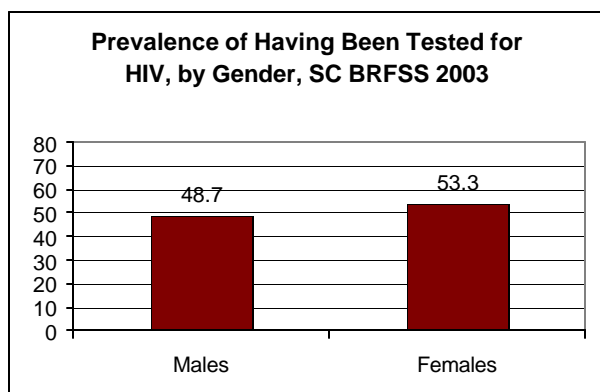


Prostate Cancer Screening*

PSA test is a test conducted to detect Prostate Specific Antigen and is a form of prostate cancer screening. 56.1% of men over the age of 40 had had the test in the last two years.

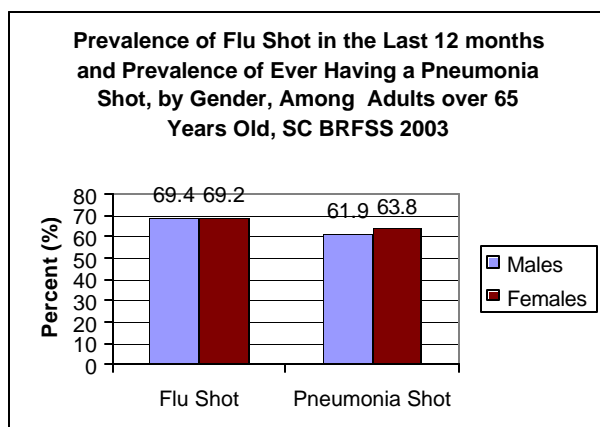
HIV/ AIDS*

This portion of the questionnaire was asked of residents who were younger than 65 years. Of the 4,431 responding adults, 51.0% had been tested for HIV. When asked about whether or not HIV testing was very important, 93.5% of responding adults replied it was.



Immunization

For those people over the age of 65, the Healthy People 2010 Goal for flu immunization in the last 12 months is 90%. Additionally, for the same age group, the Healthy People 2010 goal for having a pneumonia shot in their lifetime is 90%. The prevalence of having a flu shot in the last 12 months for those over 65 in South Carolina is 69.3%. The prevalence of having a pneumonia shot in the same age group is 63.0%.



Oral Health*

Dental Visits

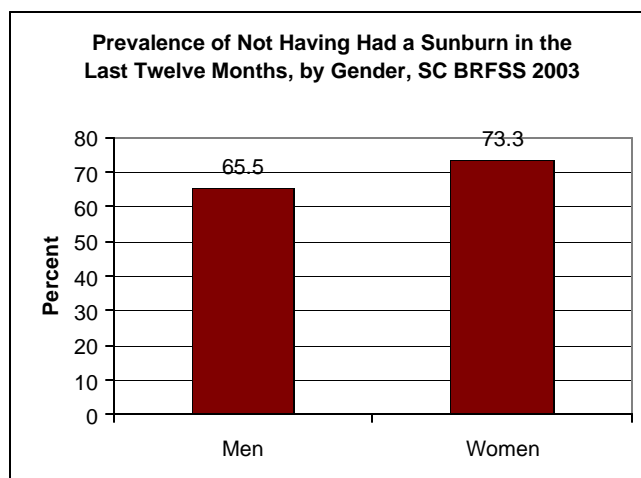
Of the respondents on the 2003 SC BRFSS, 66.5% reported that they had been to the dentist at least once the previous year; 20.4% reported that they had not ever visited the dentist or had done so more than two years previously.

Folic Acid Consumption*

41.8% of women 18- 44 years of age in the 2003 South Carolina BRFSS reported that they had daily consumption of vitamins or supplements containing Folic Acid.

Excess Sun Exposure*

Respondents to the 2003 BRFSS were asked if they had had a sunburn (where an area of skin was red for more than 12 hours) in the last 12 months. 69.6% of the respondents had not had a sunburn in the last year. OF those who had had a sunburn in the last year, 24.4% of them had had 4 or more burns.



* These headings do not have a Healthy People 2010 goal that is measurable by the BRFSS.